

Message Text

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TO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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FOLLOWING REPEAT ISLAMABAD 10733 ACTION SECSTATE USIA INFO
MOSCOW PEKING NEW DELHI KABUL DACCA COLOMBO 13 NOV

QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ISLAMABAD 10733

FOR NEA/PAB; USIA FOR INA, IOR, IBS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UR, CH, PK

SUBJ: PEKING POLICY TOWARD MOSCOW

SUMMARY: PAKISTAN TIMES CORRESPONDENT H.K. BURKI WRITING
FROM PEKING FINDS NO RPT NO CHANGE IN PRC POLICY TOWARD USSR
AND DESCRIBES WESTERN PRESS REPORTS ON SUBJECT AS "FANCIFUL".
END SUMMARY

TEXT: SEMI-OFFICIAL PAKISTAN TIMES (NOV 11) FRONTPAGED ITS
CORRESPONDENT BURKI'S PEKING DATELINED REPORT SAYING QUOTE THERE
IS NO RPT NO CHANGE IN CHINESE ATTITUDE TOWARD SOVIET UNION AND
WESTERN PRESS REPORTS BROADCASTING A BASIC SHIFT IN PEKING'S
OFFICIAL STAND, ARE BEING FIRMLY REFUTED HERE UNQUOTE.

TIMES' CORRESPONDENT BURKI CURRENTLY VISITING PRC AS MEMBER OF
PAKISTAN PRESS DELEGATION LED BY NASIM AHMED, SECINFOR., GOP.

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BURKI ATTRIBUTED SPECULATIONS ON CHANGE TO MISINTERPRETATIONS

OF PRC MESSAGE ON RUSSIAN REVOLUTION DAY, LANGUAGE OF WHICH HE SAID, QUOTE MAY SEEM RELATIVELY CONCILIATORY IN TONE(BUT) IT REITERATES AND SPELLS OUT EXACTLY CHINA'S WELL KNOWN POSITION ON SETTLEMENT OF BORDER DISPUTE WITH SOVIET UNION UNQUOTE.

BURKI POINTED OUT THAT CHINESE HAD ONLY RESPONDED TO BREZHNEV'S PROPOSAL OF NON-AGGRESSION PACT MADE TO PRC ON OCT 1, AND ADDED, QUOTE CHINESE CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN THAT SUCH A PACT WOULD BE AN EXERCISE IN FUTILITY BECAUSE IT WOULD DO NOTHING TO REMOVE BASIC CAUSE OF HOSTILITY...DISPUTE ON USSURI RIVER FRONTIER UNQUOTE.

BURKI FURTHER SAID THAT PRC IN ITS RUSSIAN REVOLUTION DAY MESSAGE HAS ASKED MOSCOW TO QUOTE UPHOLD UNDERSTANDING UNQUOTE REACHED BETWEEN KOSYGIN AND CHOU IN SEPTEMBER 1969 AND SIGN AN AGREEMENT ON THAT BASIS. THAT UNDERSTANDING BURKI CONTINUED," CALLED FOR MUCH MORE THAN MERE NON-AGGRESSION PACT".

SOVIET PROPOSAL HYPOCRITICAL: GIVING CHINESE REACTION TO SOVIET PROPOSAL BURKI WROTE, QUOTE CHINESE CONSIDER MR. BREZHNEV'S NON-AGGRESSION PACT PROPOSAL AS HYPOCRITICAL. THEY BELIEVE THAT IT WAS MADE ONLY TO DECEIVE SOVIET PEOPLE AND TO MISLEAD WORLD PUBLIC OPINION....THE CHINESE, HOWEVER, GENUINELY DESIRE NORMALIZATION OF THEIR RELATIONS WITH SOVIET UNION. THEY STRESS THAT IDEOLOGICAL DIFFERENCES SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO AFFECT STATE RELATIONS, A CONCEPT TO WHICH THEY HAVE GIVEN PRACTICAL EXPRESSION FOR A LONG TIME AND ESPECIALLY IN PAST THREE YEARS OR SO. BUT NORMALIZATION WITH MOSCOW WOULD TAKE PLACE ONLY WHEN CHOU-KOSYGIN UNDERSTANDING OF 1969 IS SEALED INTO A MUTUALLY BINDING AGREEMENT UNQUOTE.

COMMENT: BURKI IN HIS REPORT DID NOT IDENTIFY ANY SOURCE OF HIS INFORMATION. WE ARE NOT FAMILIAR WITH WAYS PRC PRESENTLY MAKES USE OF VISITING FOREIGN PRESSMEN TO BROADCAST OFFICIAL VIEWS, BUT AS SEEN FROM ISLAMABAD IT CERTAINLY CONCEIVABLE THAT CHINESE, RECOGNIZING BURKI AS SENIOR CORRESPONDENT CLOSE TO TOP CIRCLE OF GOP AND SEMI-OFFICIAL NATURE OF PAK TIMES, PROVIDED INFO TO HIM.
BYROADE UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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